

**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE COUNSELOR**

**FROM: AA/ANE, Carol C. Adelman**

**SUBJECT: Afghanistan: Your meeting with Dr. Abdul Wakil**

**Date: Tuesday, December 13, 1988**  
**Time: 3:00 - 3:45 P.M.**  
**Place: Office of the Counselor**

**Participants:**

**Dr. Abdul Wakil, Agricultural Coordinator and Senior Advisor, Volunteers in Technical Assistance/Peshawar**  
**Mr. Larry Williams, Deputy Director, Volunteers in Technical Assistance/Washington**  
**Mr. Mohammed Shah, Program Officer, Volunteers in Technical Assistance/Washington**

**Tom Reese, DAA/ANE**  
**Gary Mansavage, ANE/AF**  
**Martin Hanratty, ANE/TR**

Dr. Abdul Wakil, whom you met during your trip to Pakistan, is, as you will remember, a former Minister of Agriculture for Afghanistan and currently employed as a senior advisor by Volunteers in Technical Assistance, the PVO which the Office of the A.I.D. Representative has contracted to implement the Agriculture Sector Support Project. Dr. Wakil is held in high regard by both the Afghan and the donor community and is competent to speak on political as well as agricultural matters. We suggest the following talking points:

- Politically speaking, much has happened since we last met: the Soviets and the Mujahideen have initiated face to face talks; Benazir Bhutto has been asked to form a government, and Alliance plans for the election of a national shura (council) have progressed. Will any of these events have an impact on the rate at which the refugees will return to their homes or on the manner in which assistance should be provided?

- The UN recently suffered a major setback when ten of its trucks were seized by a Mujahideen commander (because the convoy had not been cleared with the resistance). Do you foresee continuing "relationship" problems between the UN and the resistance? Will Martin Barber, whom Sadruddin has recently assigned to Pakistan on a long-term basis, make a difference? Is there anything A.I.D. can do to improve the relationship?
- I understand that you are in the U.S. to consult with experts on agricultural machinery, wheat seed, and horticulture. What type of agricultural assistance is A.I.D. best suited to provide during the resettlement period vis-a-vis the UN? To what extent can we rely on the private sector?

Clearance:

DAA/ANE:TReese \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_  
ANE/AF:GMansavage \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_  
ANE/AF:JMalick (draft)

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